UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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Fay, Sharpe, Fagan,	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2676	

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DATE MAILED: 09/22/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PTO 90C (Rev 10/03)

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary	10/056,562	SAUND ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Gregory F. Cunningham	2676	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>30 June 2005</u>.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) <u>1-23</u> is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) <u>1-23</u> is/are rejected.

7)☒ Claim(s) <u>6, 10 and 13</u> is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on <u>25 January 2002</u> is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All   b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>6/21/2005</u>.

4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.

5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1.   This action is responsive to communications of amendment received 6/30/2005.

2.   The disposition of the claims is as follows: claims 1-23 are pending in the application.

Claims 1, 3, 11 and 14 are independent claims.

Drawings

3.   In view of applicant's comments regarding intended reduced quality of certain drawings,

objections are withdrawn.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

4.   The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

> The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the
> subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

5.   Claims 1, 3, 11 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being

indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which

applicant regards as the invention.

Claims 1, 3, 11 and 14 are vague as to whom or what is the administrator of

"automatically".

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

6.   The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the

basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for a patent.

7.   Claims 1, 2, 7, 8, 11 and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being disclosed by

Seni et al., (PGPUB-DOCUMENT-NUMBER: 20030007018), hereafter Seni.

A.   Claim 1, "An image analysis and conversion method comprising:

receiving a digital ink image having both text and line art [Often it is difficult to

differentiate between these two modes of stylus operation, viz. that of a writing implement for

text entry (inking mode) and its control function such as for clicking on application icons and the

like (control mode). – para. 0007;

. The present invention is a method of interfacing with and a handwriting user interface

. (HUI) for small (pocket-shirt sized) portable devices with a touch-enabled input/output (I/O)

screen, such as are commonly known as personal digital assistants (PDAs). The portable devices

may be capable of wireless message transmission (such as for web browsing and/or e-mail). The

user interface of the present invention is typically in software and loaded into PDA storage. A

state of the art handwriting recognition engine also is included in software. The handwriting user

interface of the present invention enhances the usability, flexibility and power of the handheld

device in which it is installed. – para. 0015;

However, small <u>digital ink</u> point at the end of a word is much easier to identify and

classify as a punctuation mark, e.g. a period, comma, etc. – para. 0024;

These errors and conflicts also result from the inherent ambiguity of inputting with a

single pointing device, i.e., a stylus, wherein the stylus is used both as an inking pen for writing

and, as a mouse-type pointing device for function selection. For example, the device must

distinguish between an inking stroke and scrolling the screen by dragging the stylus. By

designating an input area for writing, such conflicts are resolved simply: the stylus functions as

an inking pen inside the writing area and as a non-inking pointing device/mouse outside of the

input area. - para. 0026, **wherein 'happy' corresponds to digital ink line art in the form of**

text and wherein the act of using the stylus to input 'happy' constitutes "receiving"]; and

converting the digital ink image into structured object representations of the digital ink

image, each of the structured object representations correlating to an automatically defined

perceptually salient structured of the digital ink image," [An entire message may be quickly

handwritten, <u>converted</u>, stored and then, transmitted, for example. - para. 0015],

"each perceptually salient structure including text and line art, wherein each of the

structured object representations is editable by a structured text/graphics editor"

[FIG. 1 shows a preferred embodiment pocket sized handheld device 100 with a housing

101 <u>graphical handwriting</u> user interface 102 according to preferred embodiment of the present

invention. – para. 0016, **wherein 'happy' corresponds to digital ink line art in the form of**

text;

Action icons 106, 108, 110, 112, 114 are displayed to provide virtual buttons for editing

any previously entered text. Preferably, the icons are displayed together at any side of the input

area (e.g., left, right, top or bottom). Editing operations may include, but are not limited to:

insert a space 108, backspace 112, delete 114, capitalize recognition result 110, and undo

insertion of last recognition result 106. Further, as each word is entered and recognized, a stylus

may be used to select one or more characters of the word in a text field of the active application.

The preferred recognition engine is also capable of recognizing individual stand-alone

characters. At any time, the user can select one (or more) character(s) from a previously entered word and write a new character(s) in the input area with the result replacing the selected text. – para. 0022;

The previously input text is displayed at the top of the screen. Each word is entered and the last recognition result remains displayed for editing in the editing area. As noted above, a single word can be selected or, individual letters within the word may be selected and corrected using the QWERTY keyboard 132. – para. 0023;

Typical recognition options may include an option to propose upper-case at the beginning of a word, an option to suggest end of word punctuation, the number of recognition results displayed in the pop-up list, the location of editing buttons (i.e., left or right hand side of the input area), and user dictionary maintenance, i.e., viewing, adding, and/or deleting entries. The option to propose upper-case may be such that, if set, the recognition engine attempts to recognize the input with and without a leading upper-case letter. – para. 0024]" is disclosed [as detailed].

(Examiner's notes:

"text" and "line art" are not distinct from each other; one can display text as line art, for example ASCII characters arranged in the form of line art, or line art as text, for example artistically arranged characters, wherein for each both line art and text are present.

"structured object representations" may be so broadly interpreted that any recognizable (perceptually salient structure) image has sufficient structure if it can be identified or recognized, i.e. line, curve, character. That which might not have "structured object representations" would be unrecognizable random patterns, but then even the Heavens have constellations.

The act of "converting" is equivalent to 'generating' "structured object representations")

B.   Claim 2, "The method according to claim 1 wherein the converting step includes, altering the digital ink image into multiple simultaneously existing structured alternative interpretations of the digital ink image each of the alternative interpretations being plausible intended outputs of a user" [para. 0016 at: As each word is recognized, it is shown inserted into the text at the top of the interface display 102 and, a secondary list of potential recognition candidates may be displayed in a box 120 and offered for substitution for or in lieu of the recognized word. Although the secondary word list box 120 is preferably displayed in the input area 104, in this example it is shown just above the handwriting input area 104; and para. 0020, 0021, and 0024], is disclosed supra for claim 1 and [as detailed]. Wherein recognition options correspond to "alternative interpretations being plausible intended outputs of a user" and 'pop-up list in box 120' corresponds to "multiple simultaneously existing structured alternative interpretations of the digital ink image".

C.   Claim 7, "The method according to claim 1 wherein the step of converting the digital ink image to the structured object representations includes generating multiple structured object representations of the digital ink image [para. 0016 at "a secondary list of potential recognition candidates may be displayed in a box 120"], the multiple structured object representations representing at least a first image representation having formal structured object representations [para. 0016 at "As each word is recognized, it is shown inserted into the text at the top of the interface display 102], and a second image representation containing informal structured object representations [para. 0016 at "A lower portion of the display is designated as a handwriting input area 104."] is disclosed supra for claim 1 and [as detailed].

D.   Claim 8, "The method according to claim 1 wherein the editing by the structured

text/graphics editor permits movement of structured object representations by at least one of,

individual objects, a sub-group of all the structured object representations [para. 0022 at "Editing

operations may include, but are not limited to: insert a space 108, backspace 112, delete 114,

capitalize recognition result 110, and undo insertion of last recognition result 106."], or as an

overall group of the structured object representations" is disclosed supra for claim 1 and [as

detailed]. Wherein delete corresponds to editing a sub-group of all the structured object

representations. Said sub-group of all the structured object representations corresponds a letter, a

character of a word, multi-digit number, group of letters, or even an entire word.

E.   Per independent claim 11, this is directed to a system for performing the method of

independent claim 1, and therefore is rejected to independent claim 1.

F.   Per dependent claim 12, this is directed to a system for performing the method of claim 1

and in part of dependent claim 7, and therefore is rejected to claim 1 and dependent claim 7.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

8.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in
> section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are
> such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person
> having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the
> manner in which the invention was made.

9.   Claims 3 and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Seni as

applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Microsoft Paint, hereinafter Paint.

A.   Claim 3, "An image analysis and conversion method comprising:

receiving a digital ink image;

converting the digital ink image into structured object representations correlating to an automatically defined perceptually salient structured of the digital ink image, each perceptually salient structure including at least one of text or line art, wherein each of the structured object representations is editable by a structured text/graphics editor, and

generating multiple alternative interpretations of the digital ink image including,

altering the digital ink image into informal structured object representations that are editable by the structured text/graphics editor; and

altering the digital ink image into formal structured object representations that are editable by the structured text/graphics editor", is disclosed supra by Seni in claims 1 and 2, wherein formal is depicted under 116, "happy" of Fig. 1.

Seni appears to lack disclosure of "wherein the altering of the digital ink image into multiple alternative interpretations includes, altering the digital ink image into informal structured object representations that are editable by the structured text/graphics editor"

However, Microsoft Paint employs the functionality to draw free-form lines "informal structured object representations" even in the free-form of cursive text, draw a box, circle, rectangle or square around the drawn free-form, select the area of the boxed free-form, and then flip, rotate, stretch or skew the selected area, and furthermore cut, copy, paste, move or erase a portion thereof, thus "altering of the digital ink image into multiple alternative interpretations includes, altering the digital ink image into informal structured object representations that are editable by the structured text/graphics editor".
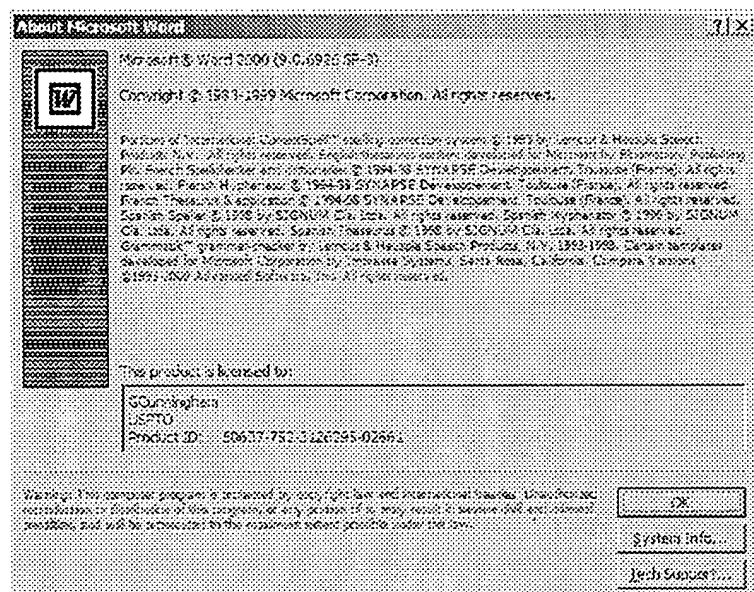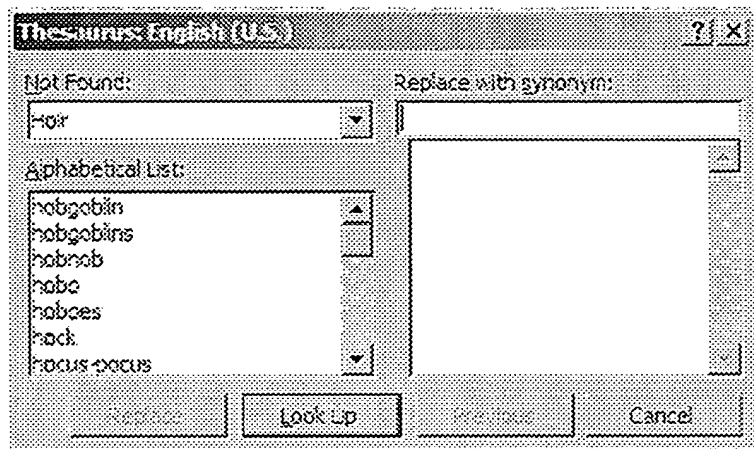
Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to apply digital ink recognition disclosed by Seni in combination with identifying an enclosed area and modifying said enclosed area disclosed by Microsoft Paint, and motivated to combine the teachings because it would be obvious since Microsoft Paint combines the two via freehand sketch which corresponds to the digital ink taught by Seni and Microsoft Paint's identifying an enclosed area and modifying said enclosed area corresponds to editable by the structured text/graphics editor.

(Examiner's note: Editable by the structured text/graphics editor may be as simple as deletion via backspace, delete key, or highlight and delete.)

10.   Claims 3 and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Seni as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Microsoft Word.

A.   Claim 4, "The method according to claim 1 wherein the step of <u>converting the digital ink</u> image into structured object representations of the <u>digital ink</u> image includes configuring the structured object representations to represent an electronic slide of the structured text/graphics <u>editor</u>" is disclosed supra for claim 1. Although Seni does not appear to disclose, "includes configuring the structured object representations to represent an electronic slide", but Microsoft Word does, for example as in expressing alternative interpretations of the word 'hoir' via Microsoft Word's Thesaurus, under the Alphabetical list is shown a slider bar, see below:

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the

invention was made to apply digital ink recognition disclosed by Seni in combination with

electronic slide presentation disclosed by Microsoft Word's Thesaurus, and motivated to

combine the teachings because using Microsoft Word's Thesaurus combines both the digital ink

user input and the presentation of alternatives via a slider.

B.   Claim 8, "The method according to claim 1 wherein the editing by the structured

text/graphics editor permits movement of structured object representations by at least one of,

individual objects, a sub-group of all the structured object representations, or as an overall group

of the structured object representations" is disclosed supra for claim 1. However to solidify Seni

more firmly MS Word employs highlighting (marking) any subgroup of characters, words,

sentences, paragraphs or objects and editing them via deletion, movement and/or insertion,

change color, grayscale, or orientation.

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the

invention was made to apply digital ink recognition disclosed by Seni in combination with

subgroup editing as disclosed by MS Word, and motivated to combine the teachings because

highlighting (marking) Seni's digital ink of any subgroup of characters, words, sentences,

paragraphs or objects and editing them via deletion, movement and/or insertion, change color,

grayscale, or orientation as perform by MS Word acts to combine both of these elements.

11.   Claims 5 and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Seni as

applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Wilcox et al., (US-PAT-NO: 5,889,523),

hereafter Wilcox.

A.   Claim 5, "The method according to claim 1, wherein the converting step includes

forming of an Alternative graph, wherein the Alternative graph is configured for the generation

of a plurality of simultaneously existing, structured, alternative interpretations of the digital ink

image, each of the alternative interpretations being plausible intended outputs of a user" is

disclosed by Seni supra for claim 1. Although Seni does not appear to disclose "wherein the

converting step includes forming of an Alternative graph, wherein the Alternative graph is

configured for the generation of a plurality of simultaneously existing, structured, alternative

interpretations of the digital ink image, each of the alternative interpretations being plausible

intended outputs of a user", Wilcox does in abstract and col. 2, lns. 24-46. Wherein cluster tree

corresponds to alternative graph.

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the

invention was made to apply digital ink recognition disclosed by Seni in combination with

cluster tree (alternative graph) disclosed by Wilcox, and motivated to combine the teachings

because it would it is an important interface issue in graphical editing systems as revealed by

Wilcox in col. 1, lines 12-16.

B.   Claim 9, "The method according to claim 1 wherein the digital ink image is converted

into the structured objects representations of the digital ink image through the use of an

Alternative Graph" is disclosed by Seni supra for claim 1 and Wilcox for claim 5.

12.   Claims 14, 15, 17-20, 22 and 23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being

unpatentable over Seni as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Golovchinsky et al.,

(US-PAT-NO: 6,389,435), hereafter Golovchinsky.

A.   Claim 14, "On a screen display of an electronic device operating a structured

text/graphics editor, an image representation comprising: structured object representations of a

digital ink image, each structured object representations correlating to an automatically defined

perceptually salient areas of the digital ink image, wherein each of the structured object

representations is editable by the structured text/graphics editor to allow a user to generate

alternative interpretations of the digital ink image, the alternative interpretations simultaneously

presented and are each plausible intended outputs of a user" is disclosed by Seni supra for claims

1 and 11. While Seni does disclose "representations correlating to perceptually salient areas of

the digital ink image, the alternative interpretations simultaneously presented and are each

plausible intended outputs of a user" as acknowledged by the applicant for independent claim 1,

Golovchinsky further solidifies this at [An embodiment of the system and method of the

invention provides a perceptually-motivated model of freeform digital ink marks that applies

higher weight to more saliently marked terms. For example, a user may choose to use digital ink

that has a high salience such as a bright color and the system may apply a higher weight to the

terms that are marked with this bright color digital ink than those terms that are marked with a

less salient digital ink for the query. The search results will reflect the greater weight given to

the terms marked with the high salience freeform digital ink. - col. 4, lns. 58-67].

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the

invention was made to apply digital ink recognition disclosed by Seni in combination with

salient digital ink disclosed by Golovchinsky, and motivated to combine the teachings because

combinations of shapes and colors can be used for the freeform digital ink marks to create a large

number of identifiable terms as revealed by Golovchinsky in col. 2, lines 23-25.

B.   Claim 15, "The image representation according to claim 14 wherein the structured object

representations are informal structured object representations, and formal structured object

representations" is disclosed supra for claims 3 and 14 and furthermore by Seni in [para. 0022],

particularly at "At any time, the user can select one (or more) character(s) from a previously

entered word and write a new character(s) in the input area with the result replacing the selected

text".

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the

invention was made to apply digital ink recognition disclosed by Seni in combination with

salient digital ink disclosed by Golovchinsky, and motivated to combine the teachings because

combinations of shapes and colors can be used for the freeform digital ink marks to create a large

number of identifiable terms as revealed by Golovchinsky in col. 2, lines 23-25.

C.   Claim 17, "The image representation according to claim 14 wherein a first structured

object representation is spatially contained within a second structured object representation" is

disclosed by Seni and Golovchinsky supra for claim 14. Wherein a letter corresponds to a first

structured object and a word corresponds to a second structured object wherein the two are

spatially connected.

D.   Claim 18, "The image representation according to claim 14 wherein a new structured

object representation is added to existing structured object representations" is disclosed by Seni

and Golovchinsky supra for claim 14. See Seni, Fig. 1, wherein each new word is added to

existing structured text at top of area 102.

E.   Claim 19, "The image representation according to claim 14 wherein the structured object

representations define a text block structure" is disclosed by Seni and Golovchinsky supra for

claim 14. See Seni, Fig. 1.

F.   Claim 20, "The image representation according to claim 19 wherein the text block

structure includes a display of text parameters including at least one of text layout, text font,

bullets, underlines and dummy characters" is disclosed by Seni and Golovchinsky supra for

claim 18. See Seni, Fig. 1, depicted text layout.

G.   Claim 22, "The image representation according to claim 14 wherein distinct alternative

interpretations may be displayed at the same time" is disclosed by Seni and Golovchinsky supra

for claim 14. See Seni, Fig. 1, pop-up window list 120.

H.   Claim 23, "The image representation according to claim 22 wherein display of the

alternative interpretations is accomplished by the use of at least one of underlays, bubble or

balloon images, coloring, shading transparency/translucency, defocusing, and pop-up windows"

is disclosed by Seni and Golovchinsky supra for claim 14. See Seni, Fig. 1, pop-up window list

120.

13.   Claim 21 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Seni as applied to

claim 1 above, further in view of Golovchinsky et al., (US-PAT-NO: 6,389,435), hereafter

Golovchinsky, and further in view of Official Notice.

A.   Claim 21, "The image representation according to claim 20 wherein the dummy

characters are replaceable with target characters" is disclosed by Seni and Golovchinsky supra

for claim 20. However they do not appear to disclose, "wherein the dummy characters are

replaceable with target characters", but Official notice is taken that the art is replete wherein the

dummy characters are replaceable with target characters in the form of temporary characters,

templates, boiler plate documents and slides, and place holders.

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the

invention was made to apply digital ink recognition disclosed by Seni in combination with

salient digital ink disclosed by Golovchinsky coupled with dummy characters disclosed by

Official Notice (target characters in the form of temporary characters, templates, boiler plate

documents and slides, and place holders), and motivated to combine the teachings because

combinations of shapes and colors can be used for the freeform digital ink marks to create a large

number of identifiable terms as revealed by Golovchinsky in col. 2, lines 23-25.

14.   Claim 16 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Seni as applied to

claim 1 above, further in view of Golovchinsky et al., (US-PAT-NO: 6,389,435), hereafter

Golovchinsky and further in view of Mahoney et al., (US-PAT-NO: 6,470,095), hereafter

Mahoney.

A.   Claim 16, "The image representation according to claim 15 wherein the alternative

interpretations permit a mixing of the formal structured object representations and the informal

structured object representations in a single image representation" is disclosed by Seni and

Golovchinsky supra for claim 15. Although Seni and Golovchinsky do not appear to disclose,

"wherein the alternative interpretations permit a mixing of formal structured object

representations and informal structured object representations in a single image representation",

Mahoney does in Fig. 3 at col. 2, lns. 45-49.

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the

invention was made to apply digital ink recognition disclosed by Seni in combination with

salient digital ink disclosed by Golovchinsky coupled with handwritten and typeset text

displayed in a single image disclosed by Mahoney, and motivated to combine the teachings

because combinations of shapes and colors can be used for the freeform digital ink marks to

create a large number of identifiable terms as revealed by Golovchinsky in col. 2, lines 23-25 and

because the amount of a human user's time required to enter and edit such user-created borders is

significant as revealed by Mahoney in col. 1, lns. 22-23.

Allowable Subject Matter

15.   Claims 6, 10 and 13 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Response to Arguments

16.   Although applicants have amended claims in light of telephone interview conducted on June 21, 2005 and made of record, the claims remain sufficiently broad to still be read on by Seni et al. as reflected supra for rejected claims.

Substance of the prior Office Action response to arguments, mail date 2/22/2005, used in the rejection is incorporated herein by reference.

See Examiner's notes, supra for claim 1 and equally applied to claims 3, 11 and 14.

(Examiner's notes:

"text" and "line art" are not distinct from each other; one can display text as line art, for example ASCII characters arranged in the form of line art, or line art as text, for example artistically arranged characters, wherein for each both line art and text are present.

"structured object representations" may be so broadly interpreted that any recognizable (perceptually salient structure) image has sufficient structure if it can be identified or recognized, i.e. line, curve, character. That which might not have "structured object representations" would be unrecognizable random patterns, but then even the Heavens have constellations.

The act of "converting" is equivalent to 'generating' "structured object representations")

With regard to "presented simultaneously" and "existing", both these ideas are present with Seni et al. item 120 in Fig. 1.

Conclusion

17.   Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Responses

18.   Responses to this action should be mailed to: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Inquiries

19.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Gregory F. Cunningham whose telephone number is (571) 272-7784.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, Matthew Bella can be reached on (571) 272-7778. The fax phone number for the

organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

On July 15, 2005, the Central FAX Number was change to **571-273-8300**. This new

Central FAX Number is the result of relocating the Central FAX server to the Office's

Alexandria, Virginia campus.

Most facsimile-transmitted patent application related correspondence is required to be

sent to the Central FAX Number. To give customers time to adjust to the new Central FAX

Number, faxes sent to the old number (703-872-9306) will be routed to the new number until

September 15, 2005. After September 15, 2005, the old number will no longer be in service and

571-273-8300 will be the only facsimile number recognized for "centralized delivery".

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent

Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications

may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished

applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR

system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR

system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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09/15/2005

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